

Obituaries

Houdini Keeps His Secrets

DETROIT, Oct. 31.-- Harry Houdini, world famous as a magician, died here this afternoon after a week's struggle for life, in which he underwent two operations.

Death was due to peritonitis, which followed the first appendicitis operation. The second operation was performed last Friday.

Whatever the methods by which Harry Houdini deceived a large part of the world for nearly four decades, his career defined him as one of the greatest showmen of modern times. In his special field of entertainment he stood alone. With a few minor excep-

tions, he invented all his tricks and illusions, and in certain instances only his four intimate helpers knew the solution. In one or two very important cases Houdini, himself, alone knew the whole secret.

Houdini was born on March 24, 1874. His name originally was Eric Weiss and he was the son of a rabbi. He did not take the name Harry Houdini until he had been a performer for years. Legend has it that he first locked himself in a kitchen cabinet to prove to certain that when scarcely more than a baby he showed skill as an acrobat and contortionist, and both these talents helped his start in the show business and his later development as an "escape king."

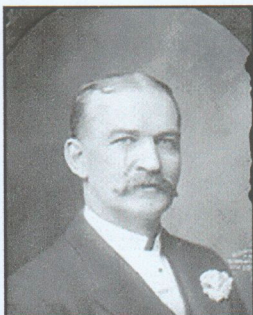


The late Harry Houdini

From 1885 to 1900 he played all over the United States, in museums, music halls, circuses, and medicine shows, gradually improving his technique and giving up his purely contortionist and acrobatic feats. In 1900 he made his first visit abroad, and in London his sensational escapes from handcuffs at Scotland Yard won him a six months engagement at the Alhambra. This was the first instance of his cleverly obtaining notoriety by a public or semi-public exhibition outside the theatre.

Houdini's will leave a void in the entertainment world. He is survived by his wife, Bess.

Millionaire Dead In Mansion



The late James Gatz

West Egg, NEW YORK- Jay Gatsby, born James Gatz died tragically last night in

his home.

He was born in North Dakota, where he worked for an extremely rich man, who inspired him to acquire wealth of his own someday.

It is rumored that Gatsby may have earned his fortune in illegal endeavors, such as bootlegging. However, it matters little to the

hundreds of guests who attended his lavish weekend soirees.

A service was held to honor Gatz, but the press was unusually surprised when only three guests came to honor what appeared to be a popular man.

Jay Gatsby is survived by his father, Henry C. Gatz.

Other Deaths:

-George Wilson:
suicide

-Myrtle Wilson:
hit by car

-Dr. T.J. Eckleburg:
Glaucoma